

Friends of Appleton School

Minutes from AGM, Wednesday 5th October 2016, 7.30pm Appleton Primary School

Present:

Philip Briscoe, Flo Whittaker, Alix Evans, Lindsay McClimont, Amy Carnell, Chris Cairns, Becky Bradbrook, Becky Morris & Jo Loots

Apologies:

Michelle Dickinson, Carrie Berry, Rebecca Francis, Andrew Kim, Sarah Jane Williams, Sara Bowman, Susie Richards

1. The Chair's Report

October 2015 saw the end to a huge push on funding by the Friends along with various grants and some generous personal donations. The much longed for installation of the Astroturf has greatly improved outdoor play time and all the children are enjoying the benefits it's brought. It also went ahead for a lot less than originally budgeted.

Fundraising continued as always over the last school year with many events taking place in and away from school carrying on the mission to raise funds.

A huge thank you to Mrs McClimont for her continued support and time she dedicates to the assisting the Friends; this is very much appreciated. Thank you to all the class reps for their work, always being on hand to drum-up enthusiasm and volunteers. Thank you also to Trudy for allowing us access to the kitchen as we so often need it. Thanks also to the dedicated group of around 25 parents that help out every event – you know who you are and we couldn't run all of the fundraising activities without you all.

Finally, thank you to Flo for being a fantastic treasurer and organiser of events and to Alix, our Secretary and it has been a pleasure working with you both over the past two years.

2. The Treasurer's Report

The accounts were provided for review at the meeting and are attached along with the minutes.

Again, the main achievement and focus of the report was finally being able to install the Astroturf. Thanks again to all involved for their continued time, support and dedication to ensuring this happened. The cost of the upgrade to the turf was £42,314.09 (including edging maintenance and plaque).

Many other events took place over the school year and helped to raise over £3,500 in funds. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped to achieve this.

Thank you to Sophie Willis and her wonderful helpers for organising a fantastic ball and wonderful evening for parents and friends of the school, giving the Friends an additional amount of £1,796.56. Fantastic and thank you.

We have been extremely fortunate in receiving some very generous donations from families and companies of families from the school. One such donation was for £15,000, to be used on technology and other equipment for the school; in particular KS1 years.

3. Head teachers Report

Mrs Carnell thanked the exiting team for their work over the past two years and for the fantastic efforts in finally getting the AstroTurf done.

Mrs Carnell is very much looking forward to working with everyone involved with the school and raised the following items:

Forest School

Due to budgeting constraints in this financial year the school have asked if the Friends can support Forest School with a sum of £3,000 up to the end of the financial year which was agreed at the AGM.

Fruit Snacks

The Government already provide fruit for KS1; however Mrs Carnell would very much like all the children at the school to have fresh fruit available to them throughout the day. The annual cost of this would be £514.80 and Mrs Carnell asked if this could be something The Friends raise money for.

Gazebo

The gazebo in the playing field is a valuable outside learning area; however, the roof needs some repair. Mrs Carnell asked if this could be the main focus of fundraising via the class reps.

4. Allocation of Funding for 2016/2017

The new committee will be responsible for identifying new fundraising projects alongside the school. The current committee propose to continue their funding of the following which was agreed by all at the meeting:

- Coach transport to the pantomime (£500);
- Classroom petty cash (receipts for expenditure are submitted);
- Payment towards Year 6 field trip.

The Friends also proposed additional funding and it was this was passed favourably at the meeting:

- Forest School petty cash (receipts of expenditure will be submitted, £50 allocation).

There is also funding tagged for Forest School (Pye Charitable Trust grant) and £10,000 (private donation to the school for KS1 expenditure) from current funds at bank.

5. Election of Officers

Philip, Flo and Alix indicated that they are stepping down from their respective roles after two years. No one volunteered themselves to take on the rolls so Philip, Flo and Alix will remain in current roles as trustees (but not taking on any more fundraising responsibilities) until replacements put themselves forward and a date has been set for 31 December 2016. The Treasurer will need to be filled by mid-December. for volunteers to take on the rolls. In the meantime, events such as the Christmas Craft Fair will only go ahead if volunteers step forward (see AOB).

Chairperson: No volunteer
Treasurer: No volunteer
Secretary: No volunteer

Class Reps for 2016/2017

Foundation: Kay Chandler & Toria
Class 1: Caroline Lomas and Corine
Class 2: Chris Cairns
Class 3: Sophie Willis and Madeleine Domain
Class 4: Katie Skinner
Class 5: Sara Bowman and Ash Eaton
Class 6: Tas and Jo

6. AOB

In order that the Friends continue to raise funds for the school, it was agreed at the meeting that instead of the Chair, Treasurer and Secretary taking responsibility for fundraising activities, a dedicated fundraising team would meet to manage activities. Jo Loots is organising the first meeting and all volunteers are advised to make themselves known to Jo.

Philip Briscoe
Chair, Friends of Appleton School
October 2016